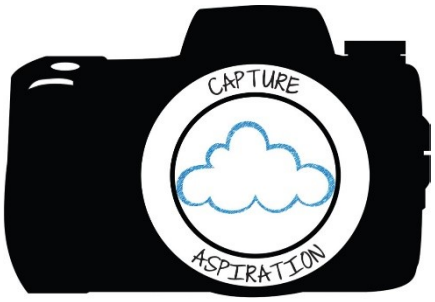
CAPTUREASPIRATIONS

PROGRAM INFORMATION



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INTRODUCTION

Captureaspirations is a not-for-profit youth development program that incorporates photo-voicing, youth participatory framework and youth community development strategies to empower disadvantaged youths to become aspiring leaders of themselves and the community.

WHO ARE OUR TARGETED AUDIENCE?

Youths from the age of 12 and above.

Youths who face challenges or lack opportunities to develop themselves due to (inter alia):

- low-income background
- at-risks situations due to family or socio-economic issues
- delinquency
- academic underachievers

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAM

The main objectives of the program are (*inter alia*):

1) Empowerment of youths by developing self-awareness and allowing them to become their own enablers.
2) Youth community participation as a means for social action that leads to positive changes in the community and possibly the society.
3) Getting the disadvantaged to be recognized as not merely recipients of aid but also as instrumental stakeholders in the community.

MAIN CONCEPTS

Photo-voicing and storytelling as a self-discovery and empowerment process

Using a community participatory framework and photo-voicing techniques, beneficiaries are engaged with buddies(volunteers) to go through a journey of self-discovery and self-empowerment.

Aspirational and Cultural Mapping to allow for better understanding/measurement

Other than team-based photography sessions in the program, the participants are also engaged with sociological tools such as cultural and aspirational mapping, focus group discussions to enhance their aspirational capital.

Beneficiaries as ChangeMakers

In addition, the beneficiaries will not only be seen as participants but more importantly change makers. Therefore, at the end of the program, the participants are attached to social enterprise and community events as official photographers-journalists to write about stories of others and the process of finding themselves.

Volunteers as buddies and not mentors

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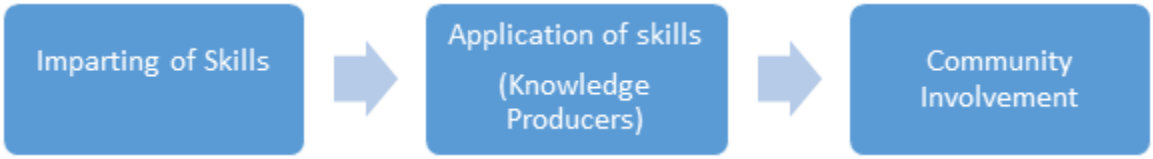
Mentors are also amateur photographers as we want to reduce the role differential that might impede an equal power distribution that is important for empowerment.

Beyond photography, what's next?

Our curriculum also provides means and project templates that organizations can use to hold exhibitions and raise awareness or even conduct fund-raising activities. For participants, they will be given the opportunity to work on other community projects as young changemakers based on our follow-up programs.

OUR EMPOWERMENT FRAMEWORK

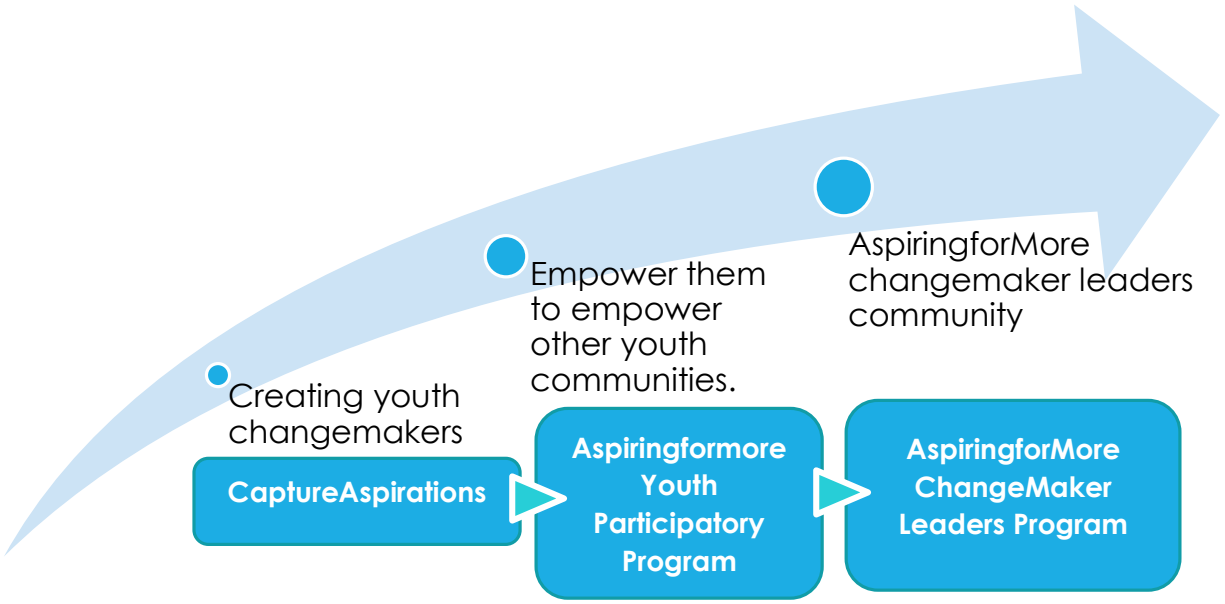
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATORY FRAMEWORK



Empowerment is a key bedrock of the participatory framework.

The participants will be engaged in skills development and after which they are expected to apply the skills they have learnt. This process encourages the participants to see the efforts of learning translate into an outcome. Part of this outcome is tailored to benefit the community. The community involvement phase encourages the participants to become givers and revolutionizes the traditional social service paradigm of beneficiaries as only recipients of aid.

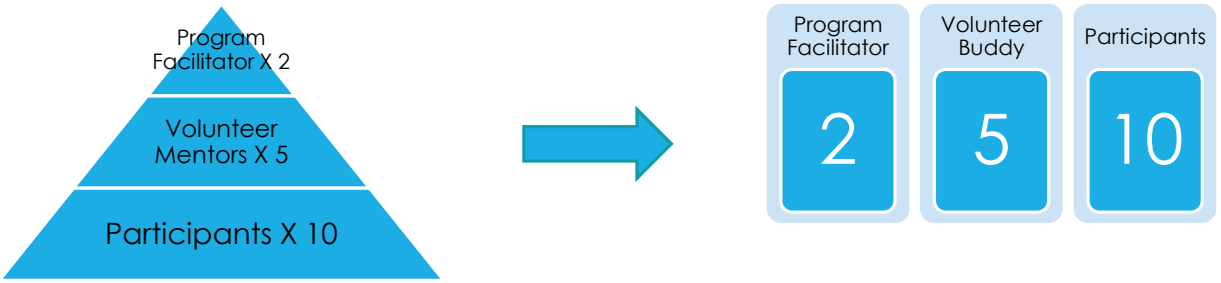
YOUTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



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zAfter going through the CaptureAspirations program, the youth participants are engaged in our follow-up programs to allow them to grow into community youth leaders i.e. **ChangeMaker Leaders**. Under the **Youth Participatory Program**, the youths are given the opportunity to improve the program experience and re-design project objectives for other youth communities or the community-at-large. The aim is for youths to become a part of the **social action** that creates positive changes to the communities they live in or the society in general. After the first successful project where they are endowed with high decision-making power and are greatly involved in the designing phase, they can move on to become **ChangeMaker's leaders** who are tasked with higher responsibilities and calling to advance youth community development in other communities and act as mentors for other community youths.

VOLUNTEERS AS LEARNING BUDDIES



Traditional youth program volunteers structures

CaptureAspirations volunteers structure ensures high participation amongst all participants.

Unequal power relations lead to passive learning and participation - We believe that unequal power relations in our volunteers-to-participants interaction can lead to the participants becoming disempowered. For example, if volunteers take on the roles of teachers or over-caring mentors, it will lead to participants to take on a more passive learner mode. This will also prevent them from being involved and participating at a more active level that is necessary for them to take on more responsibilities for their own learning and consequently, their lives.

Volunteers as buddies to ensure safety and facilitate learning - Thus, to address the issue of disempowerment, the volunteers are actually engaged as buddies who will go through this learning journey with the participants. They will be the ones who will ensure the safety of the participants and help to address any concerns of the participants throughout the program. In addition, volunteers will buddy up with the same two participants for the entire duration of the program and act as facilitators of the entire growing experience.

Volunteers adhere to ethical guidelines - Volunteers will be required to adhere to ethical and confidentiality guidelines to protect the participants' privacy.

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Volunteers are well-trained - To help volunteers take on their roles as buddies, they have to attend a one-day training workshop and will be equipped with a buddy manual. The workshop will also equip the participants with concepts of facilitation, our empowerment framework, ethical guidelines and brief them about the entire program details.

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CAPTUREASPIRATIONS PILOT PROGRAM 2013

Across the year, we have marked many milestones and created many experiences and opportunities to engage our pilot program participants. Here is an overview of our achievements and events for the pilot program.

PILOT PHOTOGRAPHY SEMINAR



Street Photography

Alan Lim, a renowned photographer and founder of School of Photography kicked off our first seminar by teaching basic photography knowledge and techniques needed for DSLR. The youths also dabbled with street photography around Clarke Quay for the very first time.



Art Photography

The youths are taught on the photography craft needed to make photographs into art pieces. They will venture into more graphic photography and hone their photography skills and eyes to capture beauty. The photography session was conducted with a fieldtrip to Clarke Quay.

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Nature Photography

At Hort Park, the youths was taught by C.S. Ling, a renowned nature Singaporean photographer, to take nature photography. They also explored concepts of environmental conservation, the beauty of mother nature and their responsibilities in protecting the environment.



Community Photography

After three lessons of photography with reflection sessions after each, the youths are given the chance to capture their neighborhoods and the stories within. This was also a chance for them to apply the concepts and skills they have learnt and produce their own cultural knowledge about the Jalan Kukoh community.

ENRICHMENT EXPERIENCES





On top of learning photography, we also worked with The Improv Company Singapore, to provide the opportunity for the youths to become official photographers for one of the companies' producetion. They also got the opportunity to experience improvisation comedy acting themselves.

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ASPIRATIONAL DINNER



Dr Lily Neo, M.P. of Tanjong Pagar GRC, graced our event and offered our youths words of wisdom.

The Aspirational Dinner as the name suggests allowed youths from ITE and Jalan Kukoh to meet and interact with their role models over an informal dinner setting. Role models invited include CID detectives, Goldman Saachs banker, start-up CEOs and AISEC leaders.

Via the dinner, the youths learnt, discovered more about the success stories of the role models during the Role Model's Presentation Session. During the session, the role models shared about their life, passions, works and anecdotal stories. These served as inspirations and narratives that can expand the aspirational pathways of the youths.

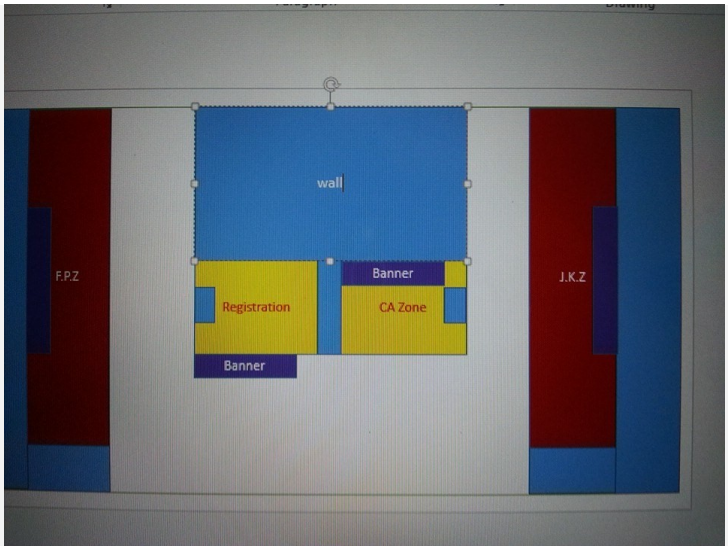
COMMUNITY EXHIBITION



Community Youth Participation

Over a span of one month, we worked with the youth community to prepare for the exhibition. In the spirit of community, we held our meetings in the void decks of Jalan Kukoh. The youths are exposed to concepts like marketing, event management and exhibition design. More importantly, it allowed the youths to be highly involved in the designing phase till the executive

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phase of the community exhibition.
The community exhibition is designed by one of our youth participants, Saddam.
Other participants took on different roles based on the project requirements. For example, Syafiqah helped to design marketing posters for our Facebook page and Aisyah helped draft emails and letters to invite the participants' friends and families to the community exhibition.



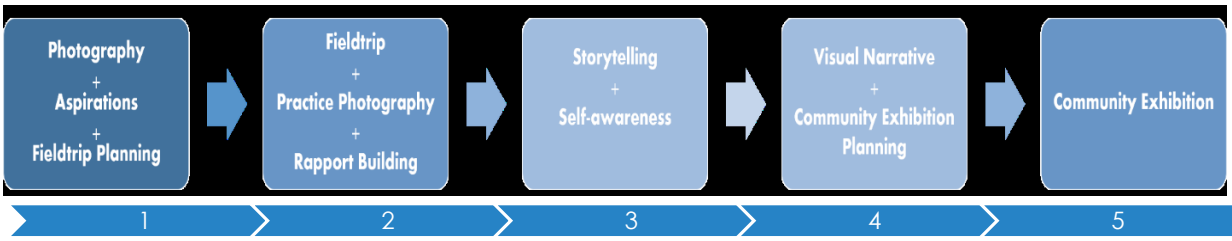


Jalan Kukoh
Community Exhibition

The community exhibition was held over a span of two days in the community itself and attracted more than 80 participants. The community exhibition featured more than 60 photographs and stories from the youths about Jalan Kukoh and their stories within We also held a post-event party to celebrate our achievements.

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CAPTUREASPIRATIONS PROGRAM OUTLINE:



Seminar One	Participants will learn basic **photography** skills and apply these skills through a series of team-based activities and exercises. The participants will be taught how to handle a DSLR and take quality images. After the first seminar, a discussion on **aspirations** is carried out. Using role models in the society, we seek to spark a discussion among the participants about their aspirations, hopes and dreams. The participants are broken down to smaller groups where they are supposed to pen down future-oriented thoughts through the drawing of aspirational maps. The participants will also be tasked with planning their own **fieldtrip** for them to practice the photography techniques that they have learnt. In the process, they will learn about compromise and collaboration and also be put into a situation where they will become decision makers.
Seminar Two	Based on what the youths have planned, they will organize the activities and set the objectives of the fieldtrip. The aim of the **fieldtrip** is also to **practice the photography skills** taught in the first seminar. During the process, they will also be **building rapport** with the volunteer buddies. The fieldtrip also provides the opportunity for volunteer buddies and participants to know each other better
Seminar Three	During this seminar, participants will learn about how photography has been used around the world to tell **stories** and how these stories have inducted change. They will be given the opportunity to create their **own** stories and put together visual narratives that tell these stories.
Seminar Four	Part of the empowerment process is to allow participants to view themselves as change agents. This recalibrates the usual power structure of social service programs that always put the beneficiaries as the recipient of aid. Having participants be part of the change and not just be changed, it creates a new paradigm of empowerment. During this phase, participants will create their own **visual narratives** and also start planning the next step on what these visual narratives that are created can be used to **enact social action** and help the **community**.
Community Exhibition	With the stories and narratives created by the participants, the partnering organization can decide on what to do with these new materials. In this

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	phase, we have a few suggestions on what are the follow-ups for the projects that they can undertake. The timing of the session are predicated upon the availability of the partnering organization, youth participants and volunteer buddies. It is essential that the youth participants are engaged at all phases of the planning and implementation of the **community exhibition**.

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PARTNERSHIPS WITH ORGANISATIONS

We would like to work with youth organizations that would like to take on an innovative approach at youth development. Organizations will collaborate in the implementation of the program and a few partnership resources will be required. Organisations who we work with are preferred to have deep bonds with the community and the youths.

Some of the basic partnership needs are:

- A liaison staff to recommend and coordinate with the youth participants from their organization.
- Ensure that the youths will commit for the entirety of the program.
- A preliminary scoping meeting to understand the context of the youths and the community they reside in.
- Logistical and administrative support i.e. Venue, Program Materials, Transport and Food etc.

As a partner, the Captureaspirations team will provide resources for program delivery:

- All Nikon DSLR cameras
- Assist in youth community engagement and research
- Program facilitators
- Training of volunteers
- Photography Printing sponsors
- Fund-raising support if necessary

It is also important to note that the program outline is subjected to changes depending on the circumstances and in consultation with the partnering organization.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

To assess the impact of the youth development program, we will subscribe to monitoring and evaluations tools that are best suited for the context of the youths that we are working with. It is important to note that as this program is only two-month long, longitudinal studies and long-term M&E is inefficient and difficult to implement. Thus, monitoring and evaluation tools will focus on assessing program quality and youth community participation experience and volunteers buddy assessments. Some of these M&E tools include:

- Attendance tracking
- Program quality assessments (First and Last Session)
- Baseline survey of youth participants conducted based on socio-emotional and developmental indicators.
- End-line survey of youth participants conducted based on socio-emotional and developmental indicators
- Volunteer and youth participants experience quality based on quantitative and qualitative research tools i.e. surveys, in-depth interviews or focus group discussions.

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